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**Department of Energy**  
Grand Junction Projects Office  
Post Office Box 2567  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-2567  
**AUG - 6 1996**

MRAP OUT AR 569b 4-6 F&W CORRES  
CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE DOE AND FISH AND  
WILDLIFE 96-97 3 DOCUMENTS

Mr. Robert D. Williams, Assistant Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Utah Field Office  
Lincoln Plaza  
145 East 1300 South, Suite 404  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

Subject: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys Performed Under Subpermit 96-07

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed are the reports of two southwestern willow flycatcher surveys that were performed under Subpermit 96-07 at the Monticello Mill Tailings Site. No willow flycatchers were found on the site.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact me at (970) 248-6077.

Sincerely,

*Mary Ann Rondinella*

Mary Ann Rondinella  
Monticello Project Coordinator

cc w/o enclosure:  
D. Bird, UDEQ  
P. Mushovic, U.S. EPA, Region 8  
M. Stemple, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/COKANUT  
J. Berwick, DOE-GJPO  
D. Christian, DOE-GJPO  
W. Busby, Rust Geotech  
D. Langdon, Rust Geotech

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**Department of Energy**  
Grand Junction Projects Office  
Post Office Box 2567  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-2567  
FEB 13 1997

Mr. Keith Rose  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
764 Horizon Drive, Suite 228  
Grand Junction, CO 81506

Ms. Ronette Reisenburg  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Lincoln Plaza, Suite 404  
145 East 1300 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

Subject: Meeting Minutes from January 9, 1997, Meeting on Monticello Mill Tailings  
Site Operable Unit III

Dear Mr. Rose and Ms. Reisenburg:

Enclosed please find the minutes from our meeting in January. The U.S. Department of Energy appreciates your helpful discussion with our staff on threatened and endangered species. We look forward to continuing our discussions and hosting a site visit for you this spring.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (970) 248-6077 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Mary Ann Rondinella*  
Mary Ann Rondinella  
Monticello Project Coordinator

cc w/enclosures:

P. Mushovic, EPA Region VIII  
D. Bird, UDEQ  
M. Butherus, MACTEC-ERS  
M. Kastens, MACTEC-ERS  
K. McClellan, MACTEC-ERS

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Minutes of Meeting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, January 9, 1997, in  
Grand Junction, CO.

SUBJECT: Endangered Species Act Compliance for Operable Unit III, Monticello Mill  
Tailings Site, Monticello, Utah

Attendees:

Mr. Keith Rose, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	(970) 243-4552
Ms. Ronette Reisenburg, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	(801) 524-5009 ext. 139
Ms. Mary Ann Rondinella, U.S. Dept. of Energy	(970) 248-6077
Ms. Kristen McClellen, MACTEC-ERS	(970) 248-6554
Ms. Marilyn Kastens, MACTEC-ERS	(970) 248-6781

Topics Discussed:

1. Kristen McClellen presented an overview of the Monticello Mill Tailings Site and Operable Unit (OU) III. Photographs and maps of the site were shown. The project status and alternatives analysis for soil and sediment in OU III were discussed. DOE requested guidance from the USFWS on what work needs to be done for Endangered Species Act compliance prior to starting remediation activities in 1998.
2. Keith Rose and Ronette Reisenberg recommended that the list of threatened and endangered species (TES) be reviewed. Federal agencies are not required to take specific actions with respect to candidate species, but are encouraged by the USFWS to do so. Mr. Rose also stated that the types of habitat available need to be considered. Bald eagles and black-footed ferrets are not present in the area. The Southwestern Willow Flycatcher may be present, and surveys should be considered. No fish are present in Montezuma Creek near the millsite and are not likely to migrate upstream from Montezuma Canyon because of large boulders. Keith will gather information on the Mexican Spotted Owl, and Peregrine Falcon, along with the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. Although the Spotted at is not a TES or candidate species, Keith will see if he has any information on this species because it is a former candidate-2 species and is known to exist in the OU III area.
3. Mr. Rose also explained that depletion of flow in Montezuma Creek must be analyzed because the creek is a tributary to the San Juan River, which is habitat for endangered fish. DOE will perform an analysis of OU I and OU III impacts to flows. is unlikely that a major depletion will result from remedial actions. A small depletion (less than 100 acre-feet) will require that documentation be entered into the administrative record. Keith gave the name and phone number of the San Juan River Recovery Program point of contact in Albuquerque so that DOE could obtain more information.

4. It was agreed that this meeting constituted an informal consultation. The parties will meet again in March to review the TES and discuss the need for surveys. A site visit will be planned for this spring.
5. Ms. Reisenberg will meet with DOE in February to discuss natural resource damage assessments.
6. Follow-on Actions:

MACTEC-ERS has been tasked to prepare an analysis of depletion to flows in Montezuma Creek from OU I and OU III activities.

USFWS will gather information on TES and State sensitive species. M. Kastens will call Keith on January 27 to determine if he was able to collect any pertinent information.

DOE will set up another meeting in March with USFWS to discuss TES.

DOE and USFWS will meet in February to discuss natural resource damage assessments.

A site visit with USFWS will be held in May or June 1997.

Prepared by Mary Ann Rondinella, U.S. Department of Energy-Grand Junction Office



U.S. Department of Energy  
Grand Junction Office  
2597 B 3/4 Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81503

DVIII  
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JUL 17 1997

Mr. Keith Rose  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Utah Field Office  
Lincoln Plaza, Suite 404  
145 East 1300 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

SUBJECT: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Survey Results, Monticello Mill Tailings  
Site, Operable Unit III

Dear Mr. Rose:

Enclosed is the final report from three 1997 southwestern willow flycatcher surveys. Under the direction of Terry Ireland of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the surveys were performed under Subpermit 96-07. No southwestern willow flycatchers were found at the site.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (970) 248-7612.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Metzler  
Project Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

F. Howe, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
B. Morris, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
R. Reisenburg, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
M. Stemple, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
R. Woyewodzic, Bureau of Land Management

cc w/o enclosure:

P. Mushovic, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8  
D. Bird, Utah Department of Environmental Quality  
J. Berwick, DOE-GJO  
R. Plienness, DOE-GJO  
M. Butherus, MACTEC-ERS  
lndm@birds.gov

CONTRACT NO.: DE-AC13-96GJ87335  
TASK ORDER NO.: 96-05.03  
CONTROL NO.: 3100-T97-1079

July 16, 1997

Project Manager  
Department of Energy  
Grand Junction Office  
2597 B 3/4 Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81503  
ATTN: Donald R. Metzler

SUBJECT: Contract No. DE-AC13-96GJ87335—Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Survey  
Results

Dear Mr. Metzler:

Enclosed for your review is the final report of the 1997 southwestern willow flycatcher surveys. Under the direction of Terry Ireland of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the surveys were performed under Subpermit 96-07, and three surveys were performed within the prescribed windows. No southwestern willow flycatchers were found at the site.

If you have any questions, please call me at Extension 6332 or Danni Langdon at Extension 6562.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Butherus  
Manager, Major Projects

LRS/djg

Enclosure

cc w/: Project File: MSG 2.3

cc w/o: M. K. Kastens

D. L. Langdon

K. L. McClellan

D. L. Richardson

L.R.L. Sheader

**Willow Flycatcher Survey and Detection Form (rev. 4/97)**

Site Name Monticello Mill Tailings Site Was site surveyed in previous year? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
 If yes, what site name was used? same

County San Juan State Utah USGS Quad Name Monticello South

Is copy of USGS map marked with survey area and WIFL sightings attached (as required)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Coordinates 12/647950/4191480 12/650710/4190950 Lat Long / Township-Range UTM (circle one)  
 Elevation 6600 - 6760 feet meters (circle one)

**\*\* Fill in additional site information on back of this page \*\***

Survey # Observer(s)	Date (m/d/y) Survey time	Number of WIFLs Found	Estimated Number of Pairs	Estimated Number of Territories	Nest(s) Found? Y or N	Cowbirds Detected? Y or N	Comments about this survey (e.g., evidence of pairs or breeding, number of nests, nest contents, potential threats, cowbird abundance, presence of livestock, etc.)
1 <u>L. Sheader</u> <u>T. Kirkpatrick</u>	date <u>5/29/97</u> start <u>05:15</u> stop <u>08:35</u> total hrs <u>3.3</u>	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	N	Y	cattle grazing prevalent. During survey, immature red-tailed hawk responded to tape by swooping.
2 <u>L. Sheader</u> <u>M. Kastens</u>	date <u>06/13/97</u> start <u>06:00</u> stop <u>09:00</u> total hrs <u>3.0</u>	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	N	Y	cattle grazing prevalent.
3 <u>L. Sheader</u> <u>D. Langdon</u>	date <u>6/27/97</u> start <u>05:15</u> stop <u>08:30</u> total hrs <u>3.3</u>	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	N	N	livestock present in Canyon.
   	date start stop total hrs						
   	date start stop total hrs						
Overall Summary Total survey hrs <u>9.3</u>							Were any WIFLs color-banded? Yes No  If yes, report color combination(s) in the comments section on back of form

Name of Reporting Individual Linda Sheader Date Report Completed 7/7/97

*Submit the original of this form. Retain a copy for your records.*

Fill in the following information completely. Submit original form. Retain copy for your records.

Name of Reporting Individual Linda Shender Phone # 248-6739

Affiliation MACTEC-ERS (contractor for U.S. DOE) Email \_\_\_\_\_

Site Name Monticello Mill Tailings Site

Did you verify that this site name is consistent with that used in previous years? ☒ Yes ☐ No (circle one)

Management Authority for Survey Area (circle one): Federal Municipal/County State Tribal ☒ Private

Name of Management Entity or Owner (e.g., Tonto National Forest) Several landowners in Monticello, UT

Length of area surveyed: 1.75 mi (specify units, e.g., miles = mi, kilometers = km, meters = m)

Did you survey the same general area during each visit to this site this year? ☒ Yes ☐ No If no, summarize in comments below.  
If site was surveyed last year, did you survey the same general area this year? Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, summarize in comments below.

Vegetation Characteristics: Overall, are the species in tree/shrub layer at this site comprised predominantly of (check one):

- ☐ Native broadleaf plants (entirely or almost entirely) ☐ Mixed native and exotic plants (mostly native)  
☐ Mixed native and exotic plants (mostly exotic) ☐ Exotic/introduced plants (entirely or almost entirely)

Identify the 2-3 predominant tree/shrub species: Salix exigua, Salix lucida

Average height of canopy: approx. 7 ft. (specify units)

Was surface water or saturated soil present at or adjacent to site? ☒ Yes ☐ No (circle one)

Distance from the site to surface water or saturated soil: 1-20 ft. (specify units)

Did hydrological conditions change significantly among visits (did the site flood or dry out)? Yes ☒ No ☐ (circle one)  
If yes, describe in comments section below.

Remember to attach a xerox copy of a USGS quad/topographical map (REQUIRED) of the survey area, noting the survey site and location of WIFL detections. You may also include a sketch or aerial photograph showing details of site location, patch shape, survey route in relation to patch, and location of any willow flycatchers or willow flycatcher nests detected. Such sketches or photographs are welcomed, but DO NOT substitute for the required USGS quad map.

Comments (attach additional sheets if necessary): Site surveyed was smaller than last year because the DOE-owned mill site was not included. Willows were removed prior to nesting season.



